

YES! I want to protect B.C.'s special places!

To help TLC monitor covenants across BC,

I'd like to make a donation of:

\$250 \$100 \$50 \$ _____

Payment Details:

Cheque (*made payable to The Land Conservancy*)

Credit Card: Visa Mastercard

Card # _____ Expiry Date _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

My Details:

Name: _____

Spouse Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Please check here if you wish to be kept informed of TLC activities by email only.



Photo Amanda Evans

Please mail to: PO Box 50054 Fairfield Plaza,
Victoria, BC V8S 5L8
or submit online at conservancy.bc.ca

TLC respects your privacy. We never sell, trade or rent your name to another organization. Personal information collected is only used to deliver our services to you.

Charitable registration # 88902 8338 RR001

O-00049

Culturally rich history

Lyonesse Estates lies upon a very large important village site which dates back approximately 4,000 years. Several artifacts and burial cairns have been found and recorded on the land, and more could be present but undocumented. Please take care of these sacred sites which are important to the Tsawout First Nation and Cowichan Tribes. If any suspected burial cairns or other artifacts are found please contact the Archaeology Branch. <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/archaeology/>



Photo Erika Verilinden

About TLC

Known as TLC, The Land Conservancy is a non-profit, charitable Land Trust working throughout British Columbia. TLC protects important habitat for plants, animals and natural communities as well as properties with historical, cultural, scientific, scenic or compatible recreational value.

With an incredible team of donors, members, staff and volunteers, we have protected over 125,000 acres of important lands across the province involving more than 300 projects.

Become a TLC Member at
www.conservancy.bc.ca

Join the conservation
conversation @TLC4BC

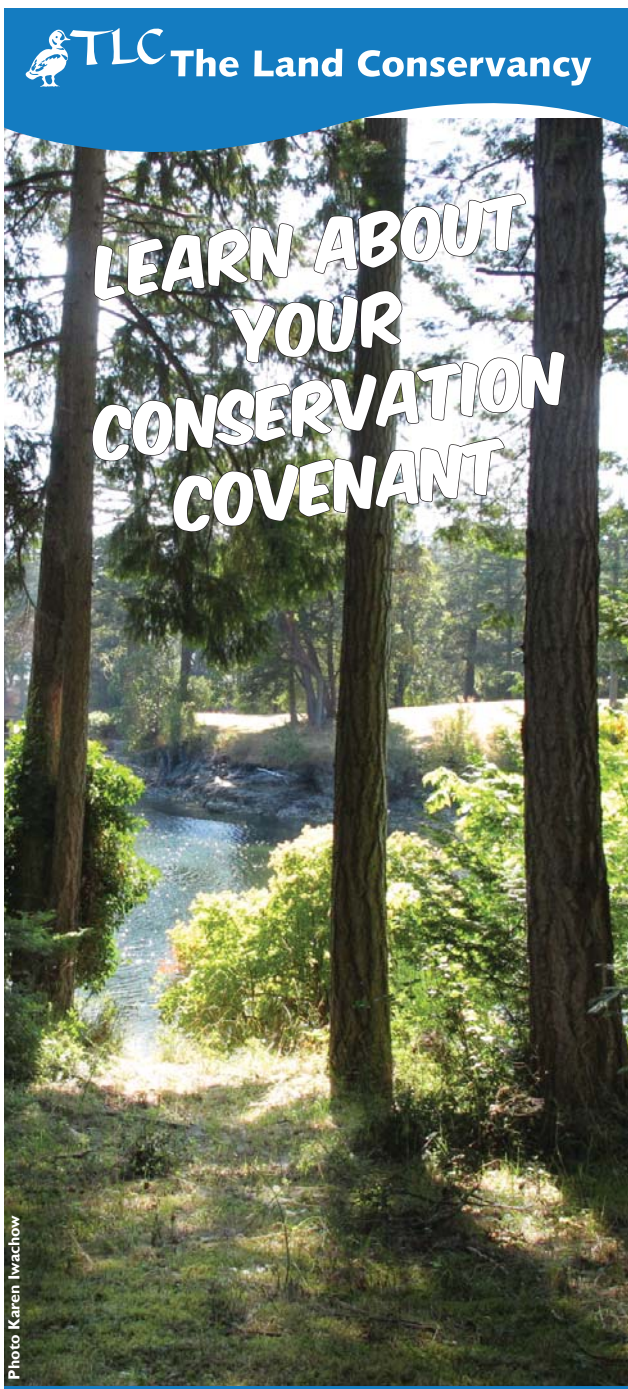


Photo Karen Iwachow

1-877-485-2422
conservancy.bc.ca

What is a conservation covenant?

A covenant is a voluntary, legal agreement between a landowner and an entity deemed able to hold the agreement, such as a conservation organization or municipal office. The agreement stipulates that you as the landowner promise to protect the land in specific ways and restricts certain activities.

The promises the landowner makes will be registered on the property title forever, regardless of who owns the land. In return, the conservation organization agrees to monitor the covenant and ensure the intentions and objectives of the agreement are being maintained.



Photo Jill Patterson

What does this mean for you?

You live on a very special piece of land. The forest in your backyard is part of the Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem which only exists near the coast from Victoria to Nanaimo and on the Gulf Islands. The Province has listed this forest system as rare and endangered because only 2% of its original extent is intact and of that only 0.5% old growth Coastal Douglas-fir forests exist today. This forest holds more endangered plant and animal species than any other ecosystem in this province! Industrial logging practices and urban development have been the culprit of the decline of these forests.

Become a steward of the land!

Garry oak ecosystems are associated with the coastal Douglas-fir systems but are even more sensitive. With only 5% left of intact meadows, rocky bluffs and woodlands, and 100 species at risk, Garry oak systems need extra attention. Not only does the rich biodiversity of species in this system make this so beautiful but they also have a great connection culturally. For thousands of years First Nations cultivated these lands for growing camas (which still produces magnificent shows in the spring) and other food crops by means of fire. Since European contact, managing these systems using fire has stopped and many of the meadows are being invaded by Douglas-fir trees, if not destroyed by development.



Photo Karen Iwachow

Photo Carla Funk

Lyoness Estates includes a beautiful Garry oak ecosystem which is now protected thanks to the conservation covenant. However, invasive species still pose a risk to this system. Species such as gorse, Himalayan blackberry, daphne and Scotch broom threaten these meadows. Efforts to eradicate these invasives will greatly improve the chances of continuing the cultural and historic legacy of the Garry oak ecosystem.

Invasive species threat: Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*)



Photo Wikimedia Commons

Gorse is an invasive plant species which often is mistaken for Scotch broom, of course until you come into contact with it. This spiny bush, native to Europe, prefers sandy or rocky substrates and is often found near shores, bluffs, fields or roadsides. It spreads by exploding up to 18,000 seeds from seed pods and which remain viable for up to 40 years. Gorse poses huge threats to native species by decreasing local plant diversity. It increases erosion on steep slopes because the soil is often bare between plants. TLC appreciates any efforts to eradicate this noxious weed!

Tips to remove Gorse

1. Early spring or late fall when the ground is moist is the best time to remove these invasives. It may require many years of efforts to eradicate completely.
2. Removal: best is to cut the stems just below ground level. After cutting, cover the area with a thick layer of mulch made of native leaf litter.
3. Disposal: if seeds are present you must keep gorse separate from other yard waste. Burn in a closed fire pit when permitted.
4. Seeding the area with native species to promote native regrowth.